



Docket No.: E0710.0000/P001-A
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Joseph Thompson et al.

Application No.: 10/669,465

Confirmation No.: 4570

Filed: September 25, 2003

Art Unit: 2142

For: AUTOMATED CONFIGURATION
SYSTEM AND METHOD

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

REQUEST FOR CORRECTED FILING RECEIPT

Filing Receipt Corrections
Office of Initial Patent Examination
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicants hereby request that a corrected Filing Receipt be issued in the above-identified patent application. The official Filing Receipt received by Applicants, a copy of which is attached hereto, has an error in the Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant.

The Filing Receipt states Application No. 60/185,316 02/28/2000 is data provided by applicant that is not consistent with PTO records. As can be seen from the attached copy of Page 1 of the specification and Page 2 of the Declaration, the above information stated by the PTO is incorrect. The above should read as "Application No. 60/158,316 10/09/1999 as is shown in red on the marked-up copy of the Filing Receipt attached hereto.

Applicants additionally request that all pertinent U.S. Patent and Trademark Office records relating to the subject application be changed to reflect this correction.

Application No.: 10/669,465

Docket No.: E0710.0000/P001-A

Dated: January 8, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Eric Oliver

Registration No.: 35,307

DICKSTEIN SHAPIRO MORIN &
OSHINSKY LLP

2101 L Street NW

Washington, DC 20037-1526

(202) 785-9700

Attorney for Applicant



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPL NO.	FILING OR 371 (c) DATE	ART UNIT	FIL FEE REC'D	ATTY. DOCKET NO	DRAWINGS	TOT CLMS	IND CLMS
10/669,465	09/25/2003	2142	852	E0710:0000/P001-A	29	21	4

24998

DICKSTEIN SHAPIRO MORIN & OSHINSKY LLP
2101 L STREET NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20037-1526



CONFIRMATION NO. 4570

FILING RECEIPT



OC000000011514854

Date Mailed: 12/17/2003

Receipt is acknowledged of this regular Patent Application. It will be considered in its order and you will be notified as to the results of the examination. Be sure to provide the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION when inquiring about this application. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please write to the Office of Initial Patent Examination's Filing Receipt Corrections, facsimile number 703-746-9195. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections (if appropriate).

Applicant(s)

Joseph H. Thompson, Nashville, TN;
Randy J. Weems, Lavergne, TN;
Edward A. Lessman, Nashville, TN;

Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant

This application is a CON of 09/684,907 10/10/2000
which claims benefit of 60/158,250 10/08/1999
and claims benefit of 60/485,316 02/28/2000

60/158,316 10/08/1999
(*)Data provided by applicant is not consistent with PTO records.

Foreign Applications

If Required, Foreign Filing License Granted: 12/17/2003

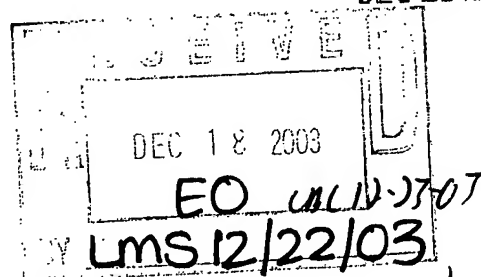
Projected Publication Date: 03/25/2004

Non-Publication Request: No

Early Publication Request: No

Title

DEC 23 AM 10:01



formalities 12/24/03

Preliminary Class

709

**LICENSE FOR FOREIGN FILING UNDER
Title 35, United States Code, Section 184
Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, 5.11 & 5.15**

GRANTED

The applicant has been granted a license under 35 U.S.C. 184, if the phrase "IF REQUIRED, FOREIGN FILING LICENSE GRANTED" followed by a date appears on this form. Such licenses are issued in all applications where the conditions for issuance of a license have been met, regardless of whether or not a license may be required as set forth in 37 CFR 5.15. The scope and limitations of this license are set forth in 37 CFR 5.15(a) unless an earlier license has been issued under 37 CFR 5.15(b). The license is subject to revocation upon written notification. The date indicated is the effective date of the license, unless an earlier license of similar scope has been granted under 37 CFR 5.13 or 5.14.

This license is to be retained by the licensee and may be used at any time on or after the effective date thereof unless it is revoked. This license is automatically transferred to any related applications(s) filed under 37 CFR 1.53(d). This license is not retroactive.

The grant of a license does not in any way lessen the responsibility of a licensee for the security of the subject matter as imposed by any Government contract or the provisions of existing laws relating to espionage and the national security or the export of technical data. Licensees should apprise themselves of current regulations especially with respect to certain countries, of other agencies, particularly the Office of Defense Trade Controls, Department of State (with respect to Arms, Munitions and Implements of War (22 CFR 121-128)); the Office of Export Administration, Department of Commerce (15 CFR 370.10 (j)); the Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of Treasury (31 CFR Parts 500+) and the Department of Energy.

NOT GRANTED

No license under 35 U.S.C. 184 has been granted at this time, if the phrase "IF REQUIRED, FOREIGN FILING LICENSE GRANTED" DOES NOT appear on this form. Applicant may still petition for a license under 37 CFR 5.12, if a license is desired before the expiration of 6 months from the filing date of the application. If 6 months has lapsed from the filing date of this application and the licensee has not received any indication of a secrecy order under 35 U.S.C. 181, the licensee may foreign file the application pursuant to 37 CFR 5.15(b).

This application claims priority to U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/158,250, filed October 8, 1999, and U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/158,316, filed October 8, 1999, which are both hereby incorporated by reference in their entirety.



BACKGROUND

In the building and construction industry, job estimation is a time-consuming and costly process. In order to appropriately estimate the cost of any job an individual must assemble both the correct product to satisfy the engineering criteria of a given project and then assemble prices from a variety of data sources. Complex estimates compound the work and cost of this process. In a complex project, estimates are often assembled from a combination of pricing sources. These estimates require both a structured and intimate understanding of the product, its technical specifications, and costs.

SUMMARY

An automated configuration system (and method) is provided for facilitating the configuration of desired products, services, or other assemblages that require users to gather and assimilate disparate knowledge of makes, models, types, features, options, limitations, codes, and prices of the desired product/service (or group of the same) to be configured. In accordance with a preferred embodiment, configuration is facilitated through interaction of a user with a frame engine that performs frame-based inferences to discern stored knowledge of a product (or the like), as supplemented by a rules-based inference system.

PATENT Docket No.: F0710.0000/P001
Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned

Page 2

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. Section 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

<u>60/158,316</u> (Application Serial No.)	<u>October 8, 1999</u> (Filing Date)
<u>60/158,250</u> (Application Serial No.)	<u>October 8, 1999</u> (Filing Date)
<u> </u> (Application Serial No.)	<u> </u> (Filing Date)

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. Section 120 of any United States application(s), or Section 365(c) of any PCT international application designating the United States, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT international application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. Section 112. I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the United States Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, C.F.R., Section 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

<u> </u> (Application Serial No.)	<u> </u> (Filing Date)	<u> </u> (Status) (patented, pending, abandoned)
<u> </u> (Application Serial No.)	<u> </u> (Filing Date)	<u> </u> (Status) (patented, pending, abandoned)
<u> </u> (Application Serial No.)	<u> </u> (Filing Date)	<u> </u> (Status) (patented, pending, abandoned)

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.